Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising:

a) a therapeutically effective amount of hepatic glutathione increasing compound for reducing insulin resistance, wherein the hepatic glutathione increasing compound is at least one of N-acetylcysteine, cysteine esters, L-2-oxothiazolidine-4-carboxolate (OTC), gamma glutamylcysteine and its ethyl ester, glutathione ethyl ester, glutathione isopropyl ester, lipoic acid, cystine, cysteine, methionine, or S-adenosylmethionine (SAMe), and

b) a therapeutically effective amount of hepatic nitric oxide donor ~~donors~~ for reducing insulin resistance, wherein the hepatic nitric oxide donor is at least one of SIN-1, molsidamine, nitrosylated N-acetylcysteine, nitrosylated cysteine esters, nitrosylated L-2-oxothiazolidine-4-carboxolate (NOTC), nitrosylated gamma glutamylcysteine and its ethyl ester, nitrosylated glutathione ethyl ester, nitrosylated glutathione isopropyl ester, nitrosylated lipoic acid, nitrosylated cysteine, nitrosylated cystine, nitrosylated methionine, or nitrosylated S-adenosylmethionine,

wherein the hepatic glutathione increasing compound and the hepatic nitric oxide donor are independently bound to albumin or a bile salt.

7. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition comprising at least one of nitrosylated N-acetylcysteine, nitrosylated cysteine esters, nitrosylated L-2-oxothiazolidine-4-carboxolate (NOTC), nitrosylated gamma glutamylcysteine and its ethyl ester, nitrosylated glutathione ethyl ester, nitrosylated glutathione isopropyl ester, nitrosylated lipoic acid, nitrosylated cysteine, nitrosylated cystine, nitrosylated methionine, or nitrosylated S-adenosylmethionine.

8. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 6 further comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable antioxidant.

9. (Previously Presented) A method of reducing insulin resistance in a mammalian patient having lower than normal hepatic glutathione levels, said method comprising: selecting a patient suffering from insulin resistance; determining if hepatic glutathione levels are lower than normal in the patient; and administering the composition of claim 6.

10. (Previously Presented) A method of reducing insulin resistance in a mammalian patient comprising administering the composition of claim 6.

11. Cancelled.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9 wherein the insulin resistance is HISS dependent insulin resistance (HDIR).

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9 wherein the hepatic glutathione increasing compound administered causes an increase in hepatic glutathione synthesis.

14-15. Cancelled.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9 wherein the glutathione increasing composition is administered orally.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9 wherein the glutathione increasing composition is administered by intravenous injection.

18. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 9 wherein the glutathione increasing composition is 8-bromo-cGMP.

19-20. (Cancelled)

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9 wherein the nitric oxide donor is SIN-1.

22. (Previously Presented And Withdrawn) The method of claim 9 wherein the hepatic nitric oxide donor is molsidamine.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9 further comprising administering a pharmaceutically acceptable anti-oxidant.

24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9 wherein the patient suffers from at least one of non-insulin dependent diabetes, essential hypertension, metabolic obesity, chronic liver disease, fetal alcohol effects, old age and a chronic inflammatory disease.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9 wherein the patient is a human.

26- 28. (Cancelled)

29. (Withdrawn) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 7 further comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable antioxidant.

30. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 7 further comprising albumin, liposomes, or bile salts.

31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9 wherein administering the composition improves glucose uptake in said patient.